

Fiscal Highlights

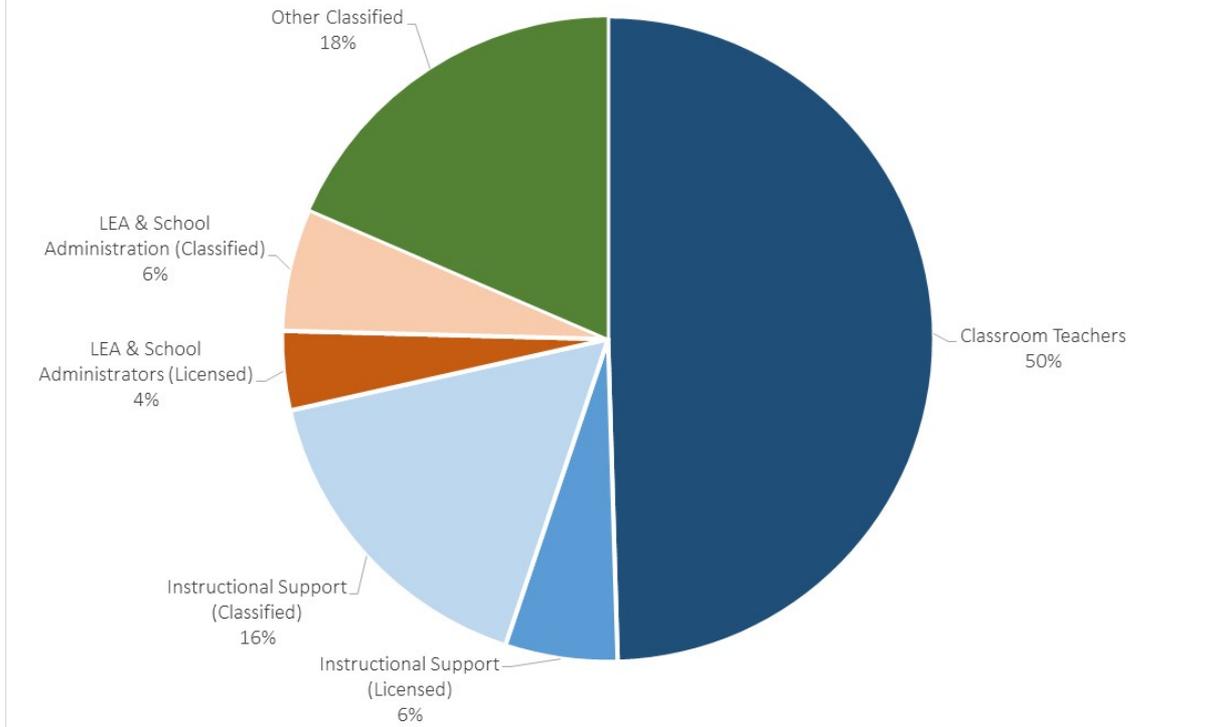
Classroom Teachers in Utah's Public Schools - Ben Leishman

Do classroom teachers really only represent 50% of all full time equivalent (FTE) positions in the school districts and charter schools? This question was asked by several legislators following the distribution of our State Budget Quick Facts card last week. In short, the answer is yes. The ratio of classroom teachers compared to other employment categories has remained relatively flat at approximately 50% for at least the last eight years.

The Utah State Office of Education (USOE) reports FTE staff by position type in the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) each year in the Superintendent's Annual Report. The following pie chart shows the breakdown of FTE staff by major position type in FY 2014. FTE positions are categorized as follows:

- Classroom Teachers - licensed professionals with an active teaching assignment,
- Instructional Support (Licensed) - licensed professionals in a supporting role, includes teacher leaders and specialists, librarians, school counselors, etc.,
- Instructional Support (Classified) - non-licensed paraprofessionals and aides working in classroom or library support,
- LEA & School Administrators (Licensed) - licensed professionals working in school and LEA leadership positions, such as superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, assistant principal, etc.,
- LEA & School Administration (Classified) - non-licensed administrative support positions,
- Other Classified - non-licensed general support positions such as cafeteria workers, bus drivers, maintenance, etc.

Public Education: Local Education Agency FTE Positions by Type
FY 2014 - Total Employment of 55,002



Combining the Classroom Teachers and Instructional Support categories shows that approximately 72% of all FTE positions are actively involved in student instruction activities. The ratio of these combined positions has also remained relatively flat over the past eight years. The following table shows a history of these FTE positions for the past eight years. The final column of the table provides the percent change for each position over that eight-year time span. Licensed administrative positions have grown the most at approximately 52%, followed by Other Classified positions at 17% and Classroom Teachers at 12%.

Public Education: Local Education Agency (LEA) Full Time Equivalent Positions by Type
FY 2008 to FY 2014

Position Category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2008-14
Classroom Teachers	24,333	23,654	25,475	25,677	25,970	26,610	27,242	12.0%
Instructional Support (Licensed)	2,788	3,410	3,726	3,749	3,832	3,104	3,067	10.0%
Instructional Support (Classified)	8,181	8,434	8,682	8,672	8,507	8,858	8,987	9.9%
LEA & School Administrators (Licensed)	1,434	1,490	1,598	1,597	1,618	1,763	2,181	52.1%
LEA & School Administration (Classified)	3,128	3,226	3,106	3,084	2,810	3,039	3,379	8.0%
Other Classified	8,642	8,834	9,196	9,298	9,198	10,407	10,146	17.4%
State Total	48,506	49,048	51,783	52,077	51,935	53,781	55,002	

Source: Utah State Office of Education, Superintendent's Annual Reports. 2008-2014. Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Staff by Position Report.